IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend paragraph **[0011]** as follows:

[0011] The function described has the following advantage. When the locking element is outside a recess of the retaining bar the handle can admittedly be rotated by a certain amount, but there is no success in moving the radial portion into the second cam surface portion. The result is that a leap back or springing~~spraying~~ occurs to the unlocked position. This is what the surgeon can make out immediately. However, when the locking element gets into the recess, the radial portion can be moved into the second cam surface portion and, hence, remains in the locking position.

Please amend paragraph **[0032]** as follows:

[0032] The cylindrical component 22 is shown in more detail in FIGS. 5 through 7. In the preferred embodiment, reception bore 24 is not strictly of a circularly cylindrical shape, but that straight surface portions or flats are formed in two positions at 40, 42. In a nearly diametrical opposition to these flat surface portions, the outside of component 22 has mounted thereon a sleeve portion 44 which extends into reception bore 24 via an aperture 46 in cylindrical component 22. As is further evident from FIGS. 5 through 7, the preferred sleeve portion 44 is cylindrical and has two grooves or cam surfaces 48 which are arranged in a diametrically opposed fashion. Grooves or cam surfaces 48 are arranged so as to have one end thereof on diametrically opposite sides of sleeve 44. One end of a groove or cam surface 48 is shown at 50 in FIG. 5. This portion is joined by a first groove or cam surface portion 52 which is inclined towards element 22 at an angle relatively steep. Portion 52 is joined by a second groove or cam surface portion 54 which is relatively flat or at a shallow angle with respect to the longitudinal axis 55 of sleeve 44. Such a groove is shown in FIG. 8 in an enlarged view. In the preferred

embodiment, relatively steep groove or cam surface portion 52 has an angle of ascent of about 35°. The groove or cam surface portion 54, which is flatter and circumferentially longer, has an angle of ascent of about 5°.

Please amend paragraph **[0034]** as follows:

[0034] It can be seen from FIG. 4 that a rotary knob 60 is rotatably supported on sleeve portion 44. Rotary knob 60 is diametrically traversed by a driver pin or cross-pin 62 which engages cam portions 52 and 54 and acts as a radial cam follower. Cross-pin 62 extends through grooves 48. Rotary knob 60 is in a differing axial position on sleeve portion 44, which depends on the rotated position of pin 62 in grooves 48.

Please amend paragraph **[0035]** as follows:

[0035] Within sleeve portion 44, a locking pin 66 is slidably arranged in an axial direction. Pin 66 is hollow in its lower region as shown in FIG. 4. Furthermore, sleeve 44 has a cross-bore through which pin or cam follower 62 extends. Locking pin 66 has an axial bore with a helical spring 68 placed therein. An enlarged locking portion 70 of pin 66 extends into the reception bore 24 through the aperture 46. FIG. 4 shows the position of locking pin 66 in which the locking portion 70 protrudes farthest radially into reception bore 24. Any further axial movement is limited by an outer shoulder of pin 66 (not shown) and bears on the border of aperture 46.

Please amend paragraph **[0036]** as follows:

[0036] In the unlocked position of the arrangement described, cross-pin or cam follower 62 is in the end regions of grooves or cam surfaces 48 which are designated 50. Therefore, the locking pin 66 has a position lowered with respect to that of FIG. 4, but its portion 70 still slightly protrudes into reception bore 24. In this position, when reception bar 26 of FIG. 1 is introduced into the reception bore 24, locking portion 70 can snap into a recess 36 and lock bar 26 in position. If rotary

knob 60 is then rotated locking portion 70 can completely engage recess 36. It is required to rotate rotary knob 60 so far that the cam following cross-pin 62 enters the groove or cam surface portion 54. When pin 62 has reached portion 54, a self-locking situation occurs because the angle of the groove or cam surface portion 54 is very small. This prevents an automatic return rotation of knob 60.

Please amend paragraph **[0037]** as follows:

[0037] However, if locking pin 66 is actuated with the locking portion 70 not already having partly snapped into recess 36 a rotation of rotary knob 60 and, hence, a movement of locking pin 66 would cause the locking portion 68 to bear on the outer surface of the cylindrical portion 30 and not in recess 36. In this situation, cam following cross-pin 62 can be moved only within the groove or first cam surface portion 52. It cannot get into the second cam surface portion 54. Thus, this causes rotary knob 60 to be automatically rotated back to the initial position because of the action of spring 68 when locking pin 66 does not engage a recess 36. This can be ascertained by the surgeon so that any faulty operation is precluded.